

**CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW  
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: June 23, 2009

TO: Council Environmental Sustainability Committee

FROM: Lori Topley, Solid Waste Program Manager  
Stephen P. Attinger, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

---

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Council Environmental Sustainability Committee (CESC) with a progress update on current sustainability projects and present a time line for projects to be undertaken in Fiscal Year 2009-10.

Attachment 1 provides a list of the projects planned for Fiscal Year 2008-09 in the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) adopted by the Council, along with a status update for each. Attachment 2 provides a list of projects to be undertaken in Fiscal Year 2009-10 and relevant time line information. Implementation of the ESAP is a Council Major Goal for Fiscal Year 2009-10, so periodic updates will be provided to the Council throughout the year.

Projects and initiatives not formally included in the ESAP but that contribute to the City's ongoing sustainability efforts are also highlighted below.

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant**

**Per Capita Application (\$719,000)**—Three projects (LED lights for either Cuesta or Rengstorff Park tennis courts, replace landfill microturbines and community energy audits and upgrades) were approved by Council on May 19, 2009. The application is due to the Department of Energy (DOE) on June 25, 2009. Following initial approval of the application, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the community energy audit program will be released.

**Competitive Grants**—No information yet released by the DOE.

**Renewable Energy Financing**

**Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)**—Joint Venture:Silicon Valley continues to work on a joint solar PPA project. Mountain View has expressed interest in this project and will report back to the CESC as more information is available.

### **City-Sponsored Renewable Energy Projects**

**Whisman Reservoir RFP**—A Request for Proposals for design of a new roof for the Whisman Reservoir is under way. The roof will be designed to accommodate a photovoltaic solar system. Staff is still evaluating how the solar system will be funded and procured.

**Solar Hot Water**—Solar hot water for Fire Station No. 5 has been included in the project specifications as directed by Council.

**Technical Assistance**—At the end of March 2009, the City applied to take part in the Department of Energy's Technical Assistance Program, which allows local government officials short-term access to the experts at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). This request for assistance in evaluating potential renewable energy sites and technologies was quickly accepted. Soon after, staff began providing Mountain View's designated NREL liaison with relevant information for assessment. The Shoreline park parking lots, the Whisman Reservoir, the Library, City Hall and the Center for the Performing Arts are currently under evaluation. At the conclusion of the project, the NREL experts will generate a report analyzing these sites and provide useful general guidance on financing and managing renewable energy projects.

**Hotel Conference Center Solar**—While evaluating renewable energy options in the Shoreline area, Public Works staff is coordinating with the Community Development Department (CDD) regarding the upcoming hotel development. The CDD has encouraged the hotel developers to work with the City to determine how renewable energy will be incorporated into the project.

### **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy**

**Staff Handbook**—A handbook to support the recently adopted Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy is expected to be completed by late summer.

**Bottled Water Policy**—A draft policy to reduce purchase of single-serving and delivered bottle water is under review by City departments. The final policy is expected by mid-July 2009.

### **Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Emission Reductions**

**Hybrid Vehicles**—There are now more than 40 hybrid sedans, small- and medium-sized pickup trucks and small- and full-sized vans in service.

**Biodiesel**—The Fleet Services Section has been using a 5 percent biodiesel blend in approximately half of the City's diesel-fueled vehicles and equipment since 2007. Twenty (20) recently purchased vehicles are E85 (85 percent ethanol, 15 percent gasoline) compatible. E85 is not yet available in our local area, but the Fleet Services Section plans to purchase it once it is.

**Vehicle Emission Control Retrofits**—The Fleet Services Section is in the final stages of completing retrofit of nine heavy-duty trucks, one pavement spreader and eight off-road construction vehicles to meet newer, more stringent emission requirements.

**Vehicle Replacement Grant**—A California Air Resources Board grant (\$307,000) was received to help offset the \$600,000 cost to replace two loaders and two backhoes with newer models with improved diesel emissions ratings and retrofit four other existing off-road construction vehicles.

### **Energy Conservation**

**Library Audit**—Review of an energy survey conducted by PG&E at the Library is under way to identify energy-savings opportunities for implementation (see Item 11 of Attachment 2).

**New Annual Energy Conservation Measures CIP**—Funding provided in Fiscal Year 2008-09 was used to purchase new, more energy-efficient lighting for the Bryant Street parking structure and Library underground parking garage. Staff is currently working with PG&E to obtain all available rebates for these measures. Staff is also awaiting results of an energy use audit recently conducted for the Civic Center complex under PG&E's Retrocommissioning Audit Program. Results will be used to prioritize energy conservation measures to be implemented during Fiscal Year 2009-10.

**LED Street Lighting**—Several types of LED streetlights are under review to determine best options for reducing power consumption and producing the maximum amount of light. After identifying the three or four most effective options, they will be installed in the test area (Calderon Avenue between El Camino Real and Dana Street) for public comment. A new test period is planned to begin at the end of June.

### **Climate Change**

**Climate Collaborative**—The Mayor signed the "Charter" as directed by Council on May 19, 2009.

**ICLEI Community-Wide Emissions Report**—Complete; will be forwarded to Council under separate cover in June or August.

**ICLEI City Operations Emissions Report**—Nearing completion; will be reviewed by Committee as part of the emissions reduction target-setting process (see Item 1 of Attachment 1).

**Green Business/Community Outreach**

**Chamber of Commerce Sustainability Education Seminar Series**—The Chamber is developing a sustainability education seminar series for the business community and City staff is providing guidance.

**Santa Clara County Green Business Program**—Fifteen (15) Mountain View businesses have been certified so far in Fiscal Year 2008-09. They will be recognized at a September Council meeting.

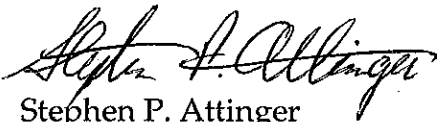
**Transportation**

**VTa Bike Sharing Feasibility Study**—A Bike Sharing Feasibility Study has been initiated by VTA with three transit stations selected as study sites: Mountain View, Palo Alto and San Jose. A consultant team has been selected and a scope of work is being negotiated.

Prepared by:



Lori Topley  
Solid Waste Program Manager



Stephen P. Attinger  
Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

Approved by:



Cathy R. Lazarus  
Public Works Director



Nadine P. Levin  
Assistant City Manager

LT-SPA/8/PWK  
944-06-08-09M-E^

Attachments

## Fiscal Year 2008-09 Action Plan—Status as of June 2009

<u>Action</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
1. Adopt CO <sub>2</sub> e Emissions Goals*	CESC review targeted for fall.	Fall 2009
2. Redesign Water Billing Format	Redesign is underway and expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.	Winter 2009
3. Recruit and Train Water Conservation Advocates	One part-time Water Conservation Program Representative has been hired. A full-time Conservation Coordinator will be hired in Fiscal Year 2009-10, bringing the conservation staffing level to 1.5 FTE. An overview of current water conservation initiatives was provided to the Council in a May 12, 2009 memo from Assistant Public Works Director Gregg Hosfeldt.	Fall 2009
4. Participate in the Single-Use Bag Ordinance*	In April, the County-wide Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission (RWRC) recommended that all cities in Santa Clara County adopt an ordinance regulating distribution of single-use bags. Staff will present options and recommendations to the CESC by late summer. A Council Study Session will follow to determine if an ordinance should be prepared. The RWRC recommends ordinance adoption by November 2009 and implementation by Earth Day (April) 2010.	November 2009
5. Install Labeling on Trash Containers in Public Areas	Solid Waste staff is currently working with Parks staff to install labels.	September 2009
6. Establish LEED Silver as the Standard for New City Facilities	Adopted by Council on March 24, 2009.	Completed
7. Support a Community-Led Green Citizens Action Team	Green Mountain View funding request approved but not yet executed.	Ongoing

\* Items likely to come before CESC for review and recommendation in Fiscal Year 2009-10.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
8. Sponsor Sustainability Tabling and Outreach at Local Events	Participated in Arbor Day (March) and National Public Works Week (May) events. Will assist Green Mountain View with booth at Art and Wine Festival (September).	Ongoing
9. Work with VTA to Redesign Community Bus Route 34	The first meeting of the community stakeholder group was held on June 8. VTA will return at the next meeting, in about one month, with ideas for rerouting the line based on stakeholder comments. The third and final meeting will complete the process.	January 2010—VTA to implement routing changes throughout the system.
10. Incorporate Climate Change Elements into General Plan Update*	Grant funding is being utilized to develop a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program (GHGRP) to address long-range GHG, climate change and adaptation strategies for the General Plan. The draft GHGRP will be presented with the Draft General Plan policy framework in August. A draft final GHGRP will be completed by March 2010, prior to the start of the General Plan EIR. The final plan will present the quantified benefits for each climate protection policy and action considered.	December 2010

LT/7/PWK/944-06-11-09T-1-E^

---

\* Items likely to come before CESC for review and recommendation in Fiscal Year 2009-10.

## Fiscal Year 2009-10 Action Plan—Status and Time Line as of June 2009

<u>Action</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
1. Continue the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Position for One Year	Limited-term funding for Fiscal Year 2009-10 is in the budget.	Completed
2. Secure Technical Assistance to Establish an AB 811 Benefit Assessment*	As an alternative to the City creating and financing its own AB 811 program, staff is investigating two regional AB 811-type programs that would likely reduce administrative costs and possibly offer cheaper financing for homeowners (see memo from Fred Irwin included in June 1 Council update).	Ongoing investigation, with availability of regional programs to be determined at a later date.
3. Evaluate Feasibility of Implementing a Municipal Renewable Energy Facility (AB 2466)*	The California Public Utility Commission has made a preliminary interpretation related to rebates that diminishes the desirability of implementing a Municipal Renewable Energy Facility pursuant to AB 2466. AB 1031 was recently introduced to correct most of the problems with this interpretation and is making good progress through the Legislature. Staff continues to monitor developments regarding AB 2446 and is also exploring the benefits of participating in a joint Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Staff will review with the CESC at a later date how the funding in the 2009-10 CIP for this project should be used for a renewable energy facility.	TBD
4. Create a Zero-Waste Action Plan (including waste characterization study and food waste composting program expansion)	Funding for the Zero-Waste Plan is in the 2009-10 CIP. Staff is collaborating with the City of Sunnyvale to issue a joint RFP for the Waste Characterization Study. The RFP should be issued in June and the consultant chosen in August. While the waste characterization is underway, staff will begin the RFP process for creation of the Zero-Waste Plan. Phase I of the food waste composting pilot is underway (Microsoft and Google). Phase II (add smaller generators) is being developed and should be rolled out by early fall.	Waste Characterization: November 2009  Action Plan: October 2010  Phase II Pilot: October 2009

\* Items likely to come before CESC for review and recommendation in Fiscal Year 2009-10.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
5. Fully Implement Bicycle Boulevards	The City secured a Transportation Development Act (TDA) grant to construct one bicycle boulevard from Dale Avenue/Heatherstone Way to the transit center. Implementation could occur next year.	Fall 2010
6. Participate in a Regional Effort to Study Feasibility of Automated Bicycle Rentals	City staff is currently participating in a VTA feasibility study. Outcome and schedule is still unknown.	TBD
7. Prepare, Adopt and Implement a Pedestrian Master Plan	The City secured a \$125,000 VTA grant to fund the Pedestrian Master Plan. Council action in June/July will accept the grant and hire the consultant.	Late 2010/ Early 2011
8. Increase Free Arbor Day Trees	Funding is in the 2009-10 CIP; an additional 200 trees will be available for the Arbor Day tree giveaway in March 2010.	March 2010
9. Create Environmental Displays at the Library	Limited-period funding is in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 budget.	December 2009
10. Implement State-Mandated Landscape Water Conservation Program	The State did not meet its time line to update the State Model Landscape Ordinance. Once a new deadline is set, staff will set a new schedule to develop a water-efficient landscape ordinance.	TBD
11. Retrofit City Facilities with Green Technologies/Green the Library*	Funding to identify and implement energy and water improvements at the Library is in the 2009-10 CIP. Energy and water audits have been completed that will help identify appropriate improvements.	Will be determined once improvements are identified.
12. Enhance Expertise of CDD and PWD Staff Members in Green Building Practices	PWD and CDD will develop an education plan by the fall, with training to be completed by the end of Fiscal Year 2009-10 or earlier.	Summer 2010
13. Establish Green Building Standards for Private Buildings*	Funding for development of a Green Building Ordinance is in the 2009-10 CIP. CDD will likely hire a consultant by September and estimates 10 months to complete the ordinance. Development of the ordinance will take into consideration recommendations being developed by the Santa Clara County Cities Association regarding green building policies for private buildings.	Summer 2010

LT/7/PWK/944-06-11-09T-E^

\* Items likely to come before CESC for review and recommendation in Fiscal Year 2009-10.